

3.6.1

The institution's post-baccalaureate professional degree programs, and its master's and doctoral degree programs, are progressively more advanced in academic content than its undergraduate programs. **(Post-baccalaureate program rigor)** USC Columbia officials make a case for appropriate rigor in master's and doctoral degree administered through the Graduate School, as judged by the Graduate Council and graduate faculty in cognizant departments. Graduate programs are subject to periodic Graduate School-linked reviews, although outside reviewers are not mandated as noted above under CS 3.3.1.1. The USC Columbia (post-baccalaureate) M.D. degree program was recently (2009) reaccredited for eight years by the American Medical Association. The first professional Pharm. D. program was accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), in spring 2010. The postbaccalaureate J.D. degree program was fully accredited in 2009.